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Inter Patent Application of

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Atty. Ref.: 160-357

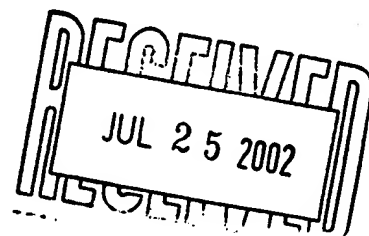
Serial No. 09/878,357

Group: 2621

Filed: June 12, 2001

Examiner:

For: SPECIMEN PROCESSING SYSTEM



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July 18, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Attention is invited to the attached copy of an Official Action, with English translation, issued in a counterpart Japanese application mailed June 11, 2002 and a copy of a document cited in it. A completed Form PTO-1449 is also attached.

Counsel is advised an English translation of the attached document is not available. A concise explanation of relevance is not necessary (and is not included) as a complete translation of the Official Action is provided. See MPEP §609A(3).

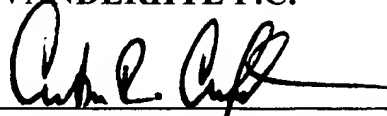
Official citation and consideration of all the attached documents is requested. Please return to the undersigned a copy of the attached PTO-1449 with the examiner's initials in the left column [MPEP §609] with the next communication.

I hereby certify that each item of information contained herein was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than 3 months from the filing date of this statement [see 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) (2)].

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: _____



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